

# U.S. Citizenship/National Status and Identity Requirements for MassHealth

## Effective 7/1/06 from the Federal Deficit Reduction Act of 2005

### Proof of both U.S. Citizenship/National Status and Identity\*

(\*Exception: Seniors and disabled persons who get or can get Medicare or Supplemental Security Income (SSI) do NOT have to provide proof of their U.S. citizenship/national status and identity.)

The following **First-Level Documents** may be accepted as proof of **BOTH U.S. citizenship/national status AND identity**. (No other documentation is required.) Individuals born outside the U.S. who were not U.S. citizens/nationals at birth must submit first-level documentation. Adopted children born outside the U.S. may establish citizenship under the Child Citizenship Act.

1. a U.S. passport; or
2. a Certificate of Naturalization (DHS Form N-550 or N-570); or
3. a Certificate of U.S. Citizenship (DHS Form N-560 or N-561).

**OR**

### Proof of U.S. Citizenship/National Status Only (Submit documentation from the highest level possible!)



### Proof of Identity Only

The following **Second-Level Documents** may be accepted as proof of U.S. citizenship/national status only.

- A U.S. public record of birth (including the 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico (on or after January 13, 1941), Guam (on or after April 10, 1899), the U.S. Virgin Islands (on or after January 17, 1917), American Samoa, Swain's Island, or the Northern Mariana Islands (after November 4, 1986). The individual may also be collectively naturalized under federal regulations. The birth record must have been issued before the person turned age 5.
- A Report of Birth Abroad of a U.S. Citizen (Form FS-545, Form FS-240, or Form DS-1350)
- A U.S. Citizen ID card (INS Form I-197 or I-179)
- An American Indian Card (I-872 with the classification code KIC) issued by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to identify U.S. citizen members of the Texas Band of Kickapoos living near the U.S./Mexican border
- Final adoption decree showing the child's name and U.S. place of birth (if adoption is not finalized, a statement from a state-approved adoption agency)
- Evidence of U.S. civil service employment before June 1, 1976
- An official military record showing a U.S. place of birth
- A Northern Mariana Identification Card (I-873) issued by the INS to a collectively naturalized citizen of the United States who was born in the Northern Mariana Islands before November 4, 1986

The following **Third-Level Documents** may be accepted as proof of U.S. citizenship/national status only.

- Extract of U.S. hospital record of birth on hospital letterhead that was created at least 5 years before the initial application date. Except for children under age 16, the hospital record can be near the time of birth. A souvenir birth certificate is not acceptable.
- Life, health, or other insurance record showing a U.S. place of birth that was created at least 5 years before the initial application date

The following **Fourth-Level Documents** may be accepted as proof of U.S. citizenship/national status only.

- Federal or state census record showing U.S. citizenship or a U.S. place of birth and person's age
- Admission papers, indicating a U.S. place of birth, from a nursing home or other institution
- Medical (clinic, doctor, or hospital) record indicating a U.S. place of birth that was created at least 5 years before the initial application date. Except for children under age 16, the medical record can be near the time of birth
- Other documents that show a U.S. place of birth that were created at least 5 years before the application for MassHealth: Seneca or Navajo Indian tribal census records, U.S. State Vital Statistics official notification of birth registration, an amended U.S. public birth record that was amended more than 5 years after the person's birth, or a statement from a physician/midwife who was in attendance at the birth
- Written affidavit\*\*

The following documents may be accepted as proof of identity only.

1. A current state driver's license containing the individual's photo or other identifying information
2. A government-issued identity card containing the individual's photo or other identifying information
3. Certificate of Indian Blood or other U.S. tribal document with photo or other identifying information
4. U.S. military card or draft record
5. School identity card with photo
6. Military dependent's identity card
7. U.S. Coast Guard Merchant Mariner card
8. For children under age 16: a day-care or nursery school record with photo, or a parental or guardian affidavit attesting to the child's date and place of birth that is signed under penalty of perjury (cannot be used if an affidavit for citizenship was provided)

**\*\*Affidavits (written statements) should be used only in rare circumstances when the applicant or member is unable to provide evidence of U.S. citizenship/national status from any other source listed.** Two affidavits must be submitted. One of the two affidavits must be from an individual who is **not** related to the applicant or member. Each individual providing an affidavit must have personal knowledge of the event(s) establishing the applicant's or member's claim of U.S. citizenship/national status; for example, the date and place of the applicant's birth in the United States. The individuals providing the affidavits must also provide proof of both their own U.S. citizenship/national status and identity for the affidavit to be accepted. If these individuals also know why documentary evidence of the applicant's or member's claim of U.S. citizenship/national status cannot be provided, this should be included in the affidavit. The applicant or member (or other knowledgeable individual) must also provide a separate affidavit explaining why this evidence cannot be provided.